**B**/**2** 09/762,720

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MACNALLY ET AL.

Examiner:

Unknown

09/762,720

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Filed:

February 8, 2001

Docket No.:

30019.70USWO

Title:

A SINGLE-CHIP CMOS DIRECT-CONVERSION TRANSCEIVER

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL 830123654 US

Date of Deposit: June 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

01/25/2001 SMAJARRO 00000091 09762720

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PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a)

Special Program Law Office Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.47(a), Applicant petitions to have the present application perfected by the declaration of inventorship of Thomas B. Cho, Shahriar Rabii, Srenik Suresh Mehta, Christopher Donald Nilson, Michael Peter Mack, Menno Marringa and Eric S. Dukatz on behalf of themselves and on behalf of Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier, joint inventors who cannot be found or reached after diligent effort. A check in the amount of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(h) is enclosed to cover this petition.

S/N 09/762,720 <u>PATENT</u>

The following documents are enclosed:

1. Seven (7) Combined Declaration and Power of Attorneys signed by Thomas B. Cho, Shahriar Rabii, Srenik Suresh Mehta, Christopher Donald Nilson, Michael Peter Mack, Menno Marringa and Eric S. Dukatz. The non-signature of Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier should be treated as Thomas B. Cho, Shahriar Rabii, Srenik Suresh Mehta, Christopher Donald Nilson, Michael Peter Mack, Menno Marringa and Eric S. Dukatz signing on behalf of Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier (in accordance with MPEP 409.03(a)).

- 2. The following evidence that Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier cannot be found or reached after diligent effort to execute the application papers:
- a) Copies of two Federal Express mail letters dated April 12, 2001 (Exhibits A1 and A2) and copies of Federal Express mail USA Airbills (Exhibits B1 and B2) with tracking numbers 824208610687 and 824208610735. These letters were sent to Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier at their last known resident addresses for executing the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (Exhibits C1 and C2). The mail was delivered to both on April 13, 2001.
- b) The undersigned attorney called Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier as many as four (4) times in April, May and June of 2001 and left voice messages as many as four (4) times on the last known telephone number (415) 282-5221.

S/N 09/762,720 <u>PATENT</u>

Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier cannot be reached after diligent efforts.

- c) Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier have left Level
  One Communications, Inc., the Assignee of the present patent application, and cannot be found.
- The last known address of non-signing joint inventor Donald Evan MacNally is
   Bronte Street, San Francisco, California 94110.
- 4. The last known address of non-signing joint inventor Laurence Marguerite Plouvier is 141 Bronte Street, San Francisco, California 94110.

Applicant asserts that numerous and diligent efforts have been made to obtain the signature of Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier with respect to the declaration of inventorship of the above-identified patent application. Donald Evan MacNally and Laurence Marguerite Plouvier cannot be found or reached.

Applicant, therefore, petitions for entry of the declaration of inventorship signed by the other seven (7) joint inventors.

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If a telephone conversation would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the Applicants' attorney-of-record, Min S. Xu (Reg. No. 39,536) at (612) 336.4733.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Reg. No. 39,536

AX/mas

Dated: June 19, 2001

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE





A., Intellectual Property Law Fatte



Direct Contact

612.336.4733 axu@merchant-gould.com

A Professional Corporation

April 12, 2001

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS** 

Donald Evan MacNally 141 Bronte Street San Francisco, CA 94110

Re:

Our ref.: 30019.70-US-WO

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/762,720 for:

A SINGLE-CHIP CMOS DIRECT- CONVERSION TRANSCEIVER

REQUESTED RESPONSE DATE:

**April 17, 2001** 

Exhill Al

### Dear Donald:

We have received a Notification of Missing Requirements from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the above-noted patent application. As a result of receiving this document, we must now provide the formal papers (Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment) no later than **April 19, 2001**.

Because of the time constraint, please sign and date the enclosed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment documents where indicated and return to us by **April 17, 2001.** 

Please let us know your telephone number for future correspondence with us and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If you change your address in the future, please let us know as soon as possible.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Min (Amy) Xu

AX/mas

Minneapolis/St. Paul

**Enclosures:** 

Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney

Assignment

Seattle Atlanta

Denver



zachwelectual Property Law Firm

3200 IDS Center 80 South Eighth Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2215 USA TEL 612.332.5300 FAX 612.332.9081 www.merchant-gould.com

Direct Contact

612.336.4733 axu@merchant-gould.com

A Professional Corporation

April 12, 2001

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Laurence Marguerite Plouvier 141 Bronte Street San Francisco, CA 94110

Re:

Our ref.: 30019.70-US-WO

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/762,720 for:

A SINGLE-CHIP CMOS DIRECT- CONVERSION TRANSCEIVER

REQUESTED RESPONSE DATE:

**April 17, 2001** 

#### Dear Laurence:

We have received a Notification of Missing Requirements from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the above-noted patent application. As a result of receiving this document, we must now provide the formal papers (Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment) no later than April 19, 2001.

Because of the time constraint, please sign and date the enclosed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment documents where indicated and return to us by April 17, 2001.

Please let us know your telephone number for future correspondence with us and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If you change your address in the future, please let us know as soon as possible. Also, please confirm your citizenship listed on the Declaration.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Min (Amy) Xu

AX/mas

Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney Enclosures:

Assignment

Minneapolis/St. Paul

Denver

Seattle

Atlanta

405

nt without obtaining a signature ) any resulting claims. TOINUSA GBFE 8/00

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#### MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

#### **United States Patent Application**

## COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors

cmos delow) of the sub cmos direct-convers		or which a patent is sought on	the invention entitled: A SINGLE-Cl	HIP
described and claimed in int		led September 10, 1999, and	) (in the case of a PCT-filed application as amended on September 27, 2000 (	
I hereby state that I have revany amendment referred to		of the above-identified specif	ication, including the claims, as amend	ded by
I acknowledge the duty to di of Federal Regulations, § 1.		al to the patentability of this a	pplication in accordance with Title 37	, Code
inventor's certificate listed bedate before that of the applications a. \( \sum \) no such applications	below and have also identified below cation on the basis of which priority	w any foreign application for	foreign application(s) for patent or patent or inventor's certificate having	a filing
	FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY,	, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER	35 USC § 119	
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
ALL	FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY,	FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY	APPLICATION(S)	
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
	Title 26 Heinel Street C. I.	S 100/2/5 of any Haited Second	s and PCT international application(s)	

below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)
60/099,723	10 September 1998

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s, ...id/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albaraha Jaha 337	Reg. No. 40,481	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Ali M. Joffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 28,828	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lycke, Lawrence E.	Reg. No. 38,540
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 27,612	Mayfield, Denise L.	Reg. No. 33,732
Beard, John L.		McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,622		Reg. No. 40,731
Branch, John W.	Reg. No. 41,633	Mitchem, M. Todd	Reg. No. 30,300
Bremer, Dennis C.	Reg. No. 40,528	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 43,836
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Nichols, A. Shane	•
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
Campbell, Keith	Reg. No. 46,597	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959	Phillips, Bryan K.	Reg. No. 46,990
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Chiapetta, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634	Prendergast, Paul	Reg. No. 46,068
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
Coldren, Richard J	Reg. No 44,084	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Dalglish, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579	Roberts, Fred	Reg. No. 34,707
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Samuels, Lisa A.	Reg. No. 43,080
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Spellman, Steven J.	Reg. No. 45,124
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Stoll- DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Tuchman, Ido	Reg. No. 45,924
Harrison, Kevin C.	Reg. No. 46,759	Tunheim, Marcia A	Reg. No. 42,189
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
	Reg. No. 31,838	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Hillson, Randall A.		Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Weaver, Karrie G.	Reg. No. 43,245
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Weaver, Rame G. Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196		
Karjeker, Shaukat	Reg. No. 34,049	Whiteless John F	Reg. No. 43,261
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Whitaker, John E.	Reg. No. 42,222
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 41,376
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946	Wu, Tong	Reg. No. 43,361
Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443	Xu, Min S.	Reg. No. 39,536
Leon, Andrew J.	Reg. No. 46,869	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 I hereby declare that all statements made with of my own knowledge are true and that a latements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

	E II M	F	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name MACNALLY	Donald		Evan
۷.	Of Inventor	MACNALLI	Dollaid		L'an
0	Residence	City	State or Foreign Country		Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California		
1	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	141 Bronte Street	San Francisco		California 94110 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	01:		Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	СНО	Thomas		В.
		1			
)	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	у	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	Alameda	California		U.S.A.
2	Post Office	Post Office Address	City	<u> </u>	State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	356 Oleander Avenue	Alameda		California 94502 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	202:	•	Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
!	Of Inventor	RABII	Shahriar		
•	Of Mirento	IO.D.I	J		i.
)	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	·-··y	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	Palo Alto	California		U.S.A.
3	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		
	Address	2162 Staunton Court	Palo Alto		State & Zip Code/Country California 94306 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	003:	•	Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	MEHTA	Srenik		Suresh
•	or inventor				
)	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	Y	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California	•	U.S.A.
4	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	1468 8th Avenue	San Francisco		California 94122 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	<u> </u>		Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	NILSON	Christopher		Donald
-	OI INVENIOR		Citiotopioi		
0	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	ry	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Jose	California	<u> </u>	U.S.A.
5	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		State & Zip Code/Country
_	Address	170 South 14th Street	San Jose		California 95112 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	<del>'</del>		Date:	
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				-	
•	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	MACK	Michael		Peter
)	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	State or Foreign Country	
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California		U.S.A.
5	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	3114 Clay Street #1	San Francisco		California 94115 U.S.A.
Signa	ature of Inventor 2	06:		Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	PLOUVIER	Laurence		Marguerite
D	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	ту	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California		U.S.A.
7	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	141 Bronte Street	San Francisco		California 94110 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	207:		Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	MARRINGA	Menno		
0	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	гу	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California		Netherlands
3	Post Office	Post Office Address	City .		State & Zip Code/Country
	Address	25 Conrad Street	San Francisco	. <u> </u>	California 94131 U.S.A.
Sign	ature of Inventor 2	208:		Date:	
	Full Name	Family Name	First Given Name		Second Given Name
2	Of Inventor	DUKATZ	Eric		S.
)	Residence	City	State or Foreign Countr	гу	Country of Citizenship
	& Citizenship	San Francisco	California		U.S.A.
		1	City		State & Zip Code/Country
)	Post Office	Post Office Address	City		•
9	Post Office Address	Post Office Address Apartment 2, 1012 Kirkham Street	San Francisco	Date:	California 94122 U.S.A.

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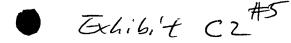
- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



#### MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

## **United States Patent Application**

# COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors

	subject matter which is claimed and for ERSION TRANSCEIVER	r which a patent is sought on	the invention entitled: A SINGLE-CHIP				
described and claimed in	as application serial no. and was a	led September 10, 1999, and	) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) as amended on September 27, 2000 (if				
I hereby state that I have any amendment referred		of the above-identified specif	ication, including the claims, as amended				
	to disclose information which is materia § 1.56 (attached hereto).	ll to the patentability of this a	application in accordance with Title 37, Co				
inventor's certificate list date before that of the a a. \( \sum \) no such application	riority benefits under Title 35, United Sed below and have also identified below pplication on the basis of which priority ons have been filed.  have been filed as follows:	any foreign application for	y foreign application(s) for patent or patent or inventor's certificate having a fili				
	FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY,	CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER	35 USC § 119				
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)				
	ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY,	FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY	Y APPLICATION(S)				
COUNTRY	ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)  COUNTRY  APPLICATION NUMBER DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) (day, month, year)						
<u> </u>							

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)
60/099,723	10 September 1998

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
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Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Tuchman, Ido	Reg. No. 45,924
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	Reg. No. 34,196	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
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Kowalchyk, Alan W.		Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
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Leon, Andrew J.	Reg. No. 46,869	Zzuii, Aliillolly K.	10g. 140. 73,233

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 I hereby declare that all statements made are in of my own knowledge are true and that an statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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# § 1.56 Duty to disclose information m. rial to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.